

NO CONDEMNATION **CHRIST ⁱⁿ JESUS**

**A CASE STUDY OF
BIBLE CHARACTERS**

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***"There is therefore now no condemnation
to them which are in Christ Jesus, who
walk not after the flesh, but after
the Spirit."
Rom. 8:1***

OUTLINE:

1. Goodnews
2. Lessons from Bible Characters
3. Conclusion

GOODNEWS

*"But the angel said to them,
"Do not be afraid. I bring
you good news that will
cause great joy for all the
people." Luke 2:10*

AIM:

To introduce and emphasize unto man, the news of God's glory hidden in the lines of the gospel.

"...make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:
Col. 1:27

INTRODUCTION

Research has shown that man can be heavily influenced by the type of news they consume.

Although negative news like violence, natural disasters, political unrest and other depressing events have dominated a greater part of our daily news, positive news has been found to counteract the negative effects of stress and anxiety, thereby restoring hope and happiness.

THE GOSPEL

One of the wonderful truths of the World is the good news about Jesus, His Death, Burial and Resurrection, I Cor. 25:3-4.

The Bible presents the importance of this good news of Jesus Christ...

Romans 1:16

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.

Romans 1:17

For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed —a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

We all need this good news; everyone that is alive both male and female, young and old, rich and poor, etc.

Please pay attention to the news headline...

THE NEWS HEADLINE

In the news today, here in London and in all parts of the world, the government of heaven announces the following:

1. No Condemnation in Christ Jesus
2. Old things passed away
3. Peace to All men

THE NEWS IN DETAIL:

1. NO CONDEMNATION

Rom. 8:1-2

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

2. OLD THINGS ARE PASSED AWAY

2 Cor. 5:17

Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things become new.

3. PEACE TO ALL MEN, Col. 3:15

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

4. WE HAVE A FAMILY WITH GOD

Gal. 3:26-28

For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

5. NO WEAPON AGAINST ME PROSPERS

Isaiah 54:17

"No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.

6. HAND WRITING OF ORDINANCES BLOTTED

Col. 2:24-15

"Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it."

6. REDEMPTION IS GUARANTEED

Col. 1:12-14

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

CONCLUSION:

Romans 8:35

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

BIBLE CHARACTER ONE:

JABEZ

Topic: YOUR STORY SHALL CHANGE

“And Jabez was more honourable than his brethren: and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, Because I bare him with sorrow. And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me! And God granted him that which he requested.

1 Chronicles 4:9-10

LESSON AIMS:

1. To have full knowledge of who Jabez is and

2. Understanding what it takes to obtain what is yours and correcting what is odd in your path to greatness.
3. The fact that your parents and background were poor is not a guarantee that you should be poor.

INTRODUCTION:

In the Bible, names matter. They have a meaning. Names are never mere nomenclature. People weren't given names because they sounded nice, or because their parents were naming them after a celebrity, or because their mom suggested it-strongly. Names carried weight and character and were often tied to a person's destiny. That's why, throughout Scripture, when God was about to do something new with a person, He would often change their given name. The most remarkable

person in the above passage is the man Jabez. It is not said whose son he was, nor does it appear in what age he lived; The bible says his mother gave him the name Jabez with this reason, Because I bore him with sorrow. We are not told the nature of her sorrow, but we know all children are borne with sorrow (for the sentence upon the woman is, in sorrow shalt thou bring forth children), but some with much more sorrow than others. Usually, the sorrow in bearing is afterwards forgotten for joy that the child is born; but here it seems it was so extraordinary that it was remembered when the child came to be circumcised, and care was taken to perpetuate the remembrance of it while he lived.

It might also be the intention of his mother to remind him to love and honour her in everything, to be a comfort to her who brought him into the

world with so much sorrow. It is piety in children thus to requite their parents, 1Tim 5 4.

We are not told upon what account Jabez was more honourable than his brethren but I have strong reason to believe that his inclination to devotion made him truly honourable, and by prayer he obtained those blessings from God which added much to his honour. The way to be truly great is to be truly good and to pray much.

WHO IS JABEZ?

1. Jabez was from the tribe of Judah (praise) but was living in sorrow. 1 Chronicles 4:9-10.
2. At the beginning of his life, his mother commissioned him to life of sorrow. 1 Chronicles 4:9

3. He rejected evil spoken to his destiny by his mother. Hard time, life of struggles, reproach continued in his life until he (Jabez) reacted.
4. Jabez initiated the process of solution for himself by calling on Almighty God for intervention at Jeremiah 33:3. "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."
- 5). Against what his mother wanted, Jabez told God what he wanted:
 - i. God to bless him.
 - ii. God to enlarge his coast i.e prosper his work.
 - iii. God to keep him from all evil and disasters.
 - iv. God to delete from his life things that is causing him to grieved.
6. Jabez refused to accept defeat.

Numbers 14:28 So tell them, 'As surely as I live, declares the Lord, I will do to you the verything I heard you say:

7. He quit the sorry state and delivered his generation from unknown embargo.

YOUR INPUTS TO GREATNESS IS REQUIRED, What are the inputs?

1. Have perfect relationship with Almighty God.
2. Be determined to succeed, never receive no for an answer.
3. Go to the source of your problems and address it. 2 Kings 2:19-22.
[19] The people of the city said to Elisha, "Look, our lord, this town is well situated, as you can see, but the water is bad and the land is

unproductive." [20]"Bring me a new bowl," he said, "and put salt in it." So they brought it to him. [21]Then he went out to the spring and threw the salt into it, saying, "This is what the Lord says: 'I have healed this water. Never again will it cause death or make the land unproductive.' " [22]And the water has remained pure to this day, according to the word Elisha had spoken.

4. Be prayerful. Mark 9:29 [29]He replied, "This kind can come out only by prayer. "
5. Obedience will sustain your greatness.
1 Samuel 15:18-22.
6. Maintain your stand with God, keep on lane, and remain focused till the

victory is won.

7. Self-control and discipline is required. Genesis 49:5-7

CONCLUSION

There is no mountain, human obstacles or family evil pronouncement that the Almighty God cannot pull down or address but the factor to get it done is recorded in Matthew 11:12 i.e being violent. Remember, Jacob wrestled with God until his destiny which was plagued with curses was divinely visited and corrected.

Jabez:

refused to accept defeat. Though parents may bring you to an unfavourable predicaments but Almighty God has the final say. The solution to one's negative situation

begins with a positive reaction to change it.

Christians should always be ready to reclaim everything belonging to them. Everyone created by God has a mandate to walk in dominion, though there may be adversaries to contend with, from immediate family to extended family members, neighbourhood, working place, e.t.c. This is the reason Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 16:9, that great and effectual doors are opened but there are adversaries to contend with. Brethren, you have to fight for your destiny!

Prayer

May God destroy every evil spoken word or power commissioned against our destiny and progress, Isa. 54:17.

Any mountain or challenge standing against your greatness, be it ignorance, bad luck, laziness, procrastination, manipulations, etc, by the authority and powers of Jesus, may your deliverance show forth in Jesus' name, amen. Zechariah 4:7

God bless you all.

BIBLE CHARACTER TWO: **JACOB**

Topic: BLESS ME

“Then the man said, 'Let me go, for the dawn is breaking!' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go unless you bless me'” (Gen 32:26).

Bible Reading: Gen 32:22-29

The Secrets of Jacob's Blessings

1. Embrace the consciousness that aloneness is not loneliness. To make progress in life, you must be willing to stand alone sometimes. It takes nothing to join the crowd but it takes everything to stand alone.
Crucial Aloneness Moments:
Moments of
(i) Consecration, (ii) Meditation,

(iii) Dreaming, (iv) Test, (v) Rest,
(vi) Salvation and (vii) Death

2. Overcome whatever struggles with you in your moment of aloneness. Anything that defeats you while alone will embarrass you in the crowd.

Crucial enemies to watch against:

(i) Satan (ii) Fear (iii) Doubt
(iv) Worry (v) Lust (vi) Bitterness
(vii) Self

3. Learn the art of intentional negotiation. Three entities you must negotiate with:

(i) **God:** God will not surprise you with big things; He'll give them to you, instead. To attract and sustain blessings, you must be intentional with God. Negotiation strategies: prayer, training, service. (PTS)

(ii) **Life:** Life will not give you what you deserve; it will give you what you demand, instead. To attract and sustain blessings, you must be intentional with life. Negotiation strategies: expectation, training, service. (ETS)

(iii) **Self:** You will not last long on a position you are not prepared for; you'll lose your head at a headache, instead. To attract and sustain blessings, you must be intentional with your life. Negotiation strategies: choice, training, self-discipline. (CTS)

Prayer Point

1. Lord help me to understand the secret to my blessing
2. Grant me the grace to overcome whatever struggles against me.
3. Help me to understand and apply the art of intentional negotiation

BIBLE CHARACTER THREE: **OBED EDM**

Topic: GOD CAN BLESS ANYONE

"Now it was told King David, saying, "The Lord has blessed the house of Obed-Edom and all that belongs to him, because of the ark of God." So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-Edom to the City of David with gladness."

II Samuel 6:12

Bible Reading: II Sam. 6:1-12

AIM: For every placement or replacement, there is a displacement.

INTRODUCTION:

Obed Edom is the Man Who Made Room for God & Got Stupendously Blessed.

II Sam. 6:1-12.

A proverb says, "Great Doors swing on Little Hinges"! Sometimes a little right but inconspicuous action can lead to a life altering, forever blessing in one's life. That is why we have to be very careful and intentional in all our actions. Most big opportunities in business and commerce come on the back of doing a small inconsequential work very well.

Obed-Edom was such a man. Though the bible did not say much about his character or the way he treated the Ark of the Covenant, it is obvious that he must have excelled, because the bible records that God blessed him and all his house hold. This blessing was so visible, that it was reported to king David.

Obed-Edom had a total of 62 men in his family as at the time of recording this scripture. Sons and grandsons. The

bible described these 62 men as 'able men with strength for the work'! These men had another quality, they had KOACH meaning firm; vigor, literally (force, in a good or a bad sense) or figuratively (capacity, means, produce); also (from its hardness)—ability, able, force, fruits, might, power(-ful), strength, substance, wealth. So, this blessing was not confined to one generation, it became multi-generational. That is just so like God. To bless your descendants for your faithfulness. Remember the Ark was only in Obed-Edom's house for just three months, but the effect of the Ark lingered for possible eternity.

God Blessed His Lineage Forever – I will not treat this in this post, but will look at it as a post all by itself, because it

deserves such major attention. Just a little teaser. How does a Philistine from Gath (Goliath came from Gath), end up in Jerusalem and in the tabernacle as one of the appointed Levitical priests in Israel? This is a most intriguing question and I promise I will do my best to answer it.

To conclude today, I think we can safely say a few things. God's blessing truly makes one rich and add no sorrows to it. The little inconvenience we sometimes endure to serve God, may be working for us a far weightier glory that we can ever imagine. The blessings of God are generational. What you do for God in one generation can keep yielding fruit of blessings in many generations to come. Like God promised that He would bless up to a thousand generations of those who

love and serve Him.

With a logical mind, I want to say Obed-Edom was most likely inconvenienced for just three months and he ended up with a blessing that would last forever.

Contrast that to the house of Abinadab, over 20 years with the ark and no visible impact, or an even more interesting one. The man who refused Jesus' parents room in his Inn. What a great miss? I like to think. What would have happened to that hotel? Would it probably not be the most sought-after hotel room in the world today. What revenues would have come into this family? Today we don't even know who the man was or his family?

CONCLUSION/PRAYER

1. Father God, please do not let me miss my day or hour of visitation.
2. Help me to always remember that a little right act can lead to a generational blessing.
3. Help me to be willing to be inconvenienced to serve you, so that I will not forfeit a -blessing you have reserved for me.
4. Lord thank you for discernment and discretion in my life.

BIBLE CHARACTER LESSON 4:

UZZAH

Topic: OBEDIENCE IS BETTER THAN SACRIFICE

(I Sam. 15:22)

And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there for his error; and there he died by the ark of God.

(II Sam. 6:7)

Bible Reading: II Sam. 6:1-10

INTRODUCTION

Lessons drawn from bible characters are good because we learn from their lives about things that we should or should not be doing.

(Rom 15:4; 1 Cor 10:11).

In this segment, we should learn some

valuable lessons from aman named Uzzah. 2 Samuel 6 records the occasion when David moved the ark of the covenant from Kiriath-jearim (KIR-ATH JEE-UH-RIM) to Jerusalem, after having conquered the city and making it his capital.

THE STORY

Israel's worship to God was in shambles because the Ark had been captured by the Philistines in a battle when Eli was the judge in Israel. The Philistines brought the ark to the temple of Dagon in Ashdod and put it inside, but later removed it when the people of the city were smitten with a disease. The Ark was transported from city to city by the Philistines when the people at each city became ill with the same disease. The leaders concluded that the disease was directly related to them having the

Ark of the Covenant. They then returned it to Israel, and eventually placed it in Kiriath-jearim, in the home of Eleazar. The ark then remained in Kiriath-jearim throughout the judgeship of Samuel and the forty years that Saul reigned as king in Israel. When David became king, he resolved to bring the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem and to re-unite the divided worship.

David gathered 30,000 chosen men of Israel and proceeded to bring the Ark of the Covenant back to Jerusalem. Understanding what had happened to the Ark of the Covenant, now let's find out where this man Uzzah comes in to play.

II Samuel 6:3-7 Let's look at some lessons that we can learn from this When God Gives Man a Pattern, God Expects Man to Follow That Pattern!

LESSONS FROM THE INCIDENT

1. God had given Israel a pattern for transporting the ark of the covenant.

Numbers 4:1-15 gives them specific instructions on how to prepare the ark and the emblems for travel. Poles were to be inserted and the sons of Kohath, the son of Aaron, were to carry the ark on their shoulders.

2. For whatever reason, the ark was not transported according to the Bible pattern. Could it be that the ark was away from the tabernacle for so long that the people forgot or became ignorant of the law? Could it be that the people lost the degree of reverence which God required of them? Could it be that they thought they could transport it in a better

way in which God had authorized?

Jer. 10:23 O LORD, I know the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man who walks to direct his own steps.

3. Because they did not OBEY, the Lord punished Uzzah, and David learned a valuable lesson on obedience. When the people placed the ark on their "new cart", they committed a serious trespass; they ignored the divinely appointed order and substituted their own arrangements. David did not have a "thus saith the Lord" for what He allowed to happen, as a result a man died! Did David learn his lesson? YES. Three months later, before bringing the ark from the house of Obed-edom he said:

1Chr 15:2 "No one may carry the ark of God but the Levites, for the LORD has chosen them to carry the ark of God and to minister before Him forever."

1. When instructing the Levites in bringing the ark to Jerusalem, he reflected on the sin committed by Uzzah saying:

1 Chronicles 15:12-13

2. Many people the world over need to learn from Uzzah. Services to God have changed with the introduction of human ideas such as instrumental music HEB. 13:15, II Jn 1:9 Have not all the brethren read about Uzzah? Have not we read:

Isa 1:12, When you come to appear before Me, who has required this from your hand, to trample My courts?

Heb 8:5, who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, "See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain."

Exod 25:40, And see to it that you make them according to the pattern which was shown you on the mountain.

- Some worshippers may feel that they have not committed so serious an offense by changing God's pattern. They may do these things with all good, honest, and sincere heart - but guess what?... "So Did UZZAH. Sins committed with Good intentions are still punishable by God

Many people truly believe that "deeds

committed with a good, honest, and sincere heart do not jeopardize a man's soul?" Do you think that this kind of attitude could persuade Uzzah that this is so?

1. Uzzah had very good intentions - intending to steady the cart. Uzzah did not hearken to God's exact Word's. But God did do exactly as He said He would do!

Num 4:15 And when Aaron and his sons have finished covering the sanctuary and all the furnishings of the sanctuary, when the camp is set to go, then the sons of Kohath shall come to carry them; but they shall not touch any holy thing, lest they die.

2. Good intentions do NOT sanctify wrong actions. Never has and never will! In writing to the

Romans, Paul commended their zeal for God but condemned them for not practicing the righteousness of God.

Romans 10:1-4 Failure to Follow God's Divine Pattern Is a Sign of Irreverence. The man that does not show enough regard for the Lord to inquire from His Word to see what He has said about a matter does not show reverence for the Will of God! A man speaking for "Homosexuality" should first see what God has said concerning the subject. Before deciding how often one should partake of the Lord's Supper, they should first find out what God has said about it. Any person that rushes to speak or act without consulting the Will of God shows disrespect for God's work in revelation. Prov 16:1-3 The preparations of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is

from the LORD. All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the spirits. Commit your works to the LORD, and your thoughts will be established. The Counsel of Great Men Does Not Constitute Authority from God When David prepared to bring the ark of the covenant from Kiriath-jearim to Jerusalem, he conferred with prominent men.

1 Chronicles 13:1-4 The point we need to make here is this. Just because it may be right in the eyes of the people, did not necessarily make it right in the eyes of God

Conclusion

1. The actions of this one man thousands of years ago, still give us something to seriously think about today.
2. If Uzzah could live again, no

doubt he would make sure that before he did anything, he would ensure that it was right before the Lord.

3. Do we have this attitude today? Are we ensuring that we are doing only the Will of the Lord?

DON'T BE SURPRISED AT JUDGMENT! Matt 7:21 Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Uzzah had his chance to learn and understand, but for whatever reason he did not and it cost him dearly!

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION:

H-B-R-C-B-LF

Prayer Point

Don't be an Uzzah and have people talking for thousands of years about your good intentions, except that you did not DO what God commanded. Won't you respond to the gospel of Christ this morning and obey God's Pattern that has been given to you?

BIBLE CHARACTER FIVE ADONIBEZEK

Topic: **THE EVILS OF MEN LIVES
WITH THEM**

Then Adoni-Bezek said, “Seventy kings with their thumbs and big toes cut off have picked up scraps under my table. Now God has paid me back for what I did to them” They brought him to Jerusalem and he died there.

Judges 1:7

Bible Reading: Judges 1:1-7

Introduction:

The book of Judges 1:1–7 tells the story of a wicked king in the Bible named Adoni-Bezek. After the death of Joshua, the people of Israel asked the Lord who

should lead the first fight against the Canaanites. The Lord responded and said Judah should go first because He had delivered the land of Canaan into Judah's hands. Judah beckoned Simeon, his brother's tribe, to support them in the war against the Canaanites. Simeon agreed and they both went out to fight.

The story:

When they got to the battlefield, they fought the Canaanites and Perizzites, and the Lord gave them a great victory. They engaged in a fierce battle against Adoni-Bezek, the king of the Canaanites, and killed ten thousand men in Bezek. Seeing that Isreal was winning the fight, Adoni-Bezek fled the war front, but the Isrealites pursued after him and caught him. Then, they

proceeded to cut off his thumbs and big toes. This may seem unexpected and callous, but once they do this, a rather chilling revelation unfolds. Adoni-Bezek cried out, "Seventy kings with their thumbs and big toes cut off used to gather scraps under my table; as I have done, so God has repaid me."

This statement gives insight into the depths of wickedness of Adoni-Bezek perpetrated while he was king. Thumbs are essential for holding things, but particularly for a king, who also needs to be a warrior, they are critical to hold weapons like swords and shields in war. Big toes are required for running, and when cut off, make running harder. Adoni-Bezek was so wicked that he cut off the thumbs and the big toes of seventy kings of the cities around him so that they could no longer wield weapons against him or run from him.

He also subjected them to eating crumbs under his table and ensured that they were always oppressed under him. Adoni-Bezek's behaviour is wickedness personified! His wickedness was eventually brought to check, and he was later taken to Jerusalem, where he eventually died.

Application:

Friend, there are people like Adoni-Bezek in the world today who are wicked, demon-possessed, and conjurers of evil spirits.

This king is just like the devil, he wants to oppress you and rob you of the benefits of your salvation. They can render many of God's people useless, forcing them to live a beggar's lifestyle while they triumph over them and glory by their Schemes

These people use satanic power to subjugate others by rendering them useless so they cannot fulfill their purpose in life. In the spiritual realm, they cut off people's thumbs and big toes to make them stagnant in their endeavors and unable to fight against their challenges or run from them. There are a couple of things to learn from this story.

CONCLUSION:

There are battles we have to face, but God is with us. There are people whom God has placed to help us win our battles. There is great power in God to overcome every battle we need to fight. There are people who choose to be intentionally wicked and have a goal

to oppress others. Though the wicked ones may oppress many people, but there is divine retribution against the wicked ones.

To win our battles against the wicked ones, we need to fight through spiritual warfare and depend on God by seeking his face for wisdom on how to win the fight (just like the Israelites did). II Cor. 10:3-6

Prayer!

1. May God disappoint the devices of wickedness over me, my family and the Church

Job 5:12 He disappointeth the devices of the crafty, so that their hands cannot perform their enterprise.

2. May their counsel be in vain. Job 5:13. He taketh the wise in their own craftiness: and the counsel of the froward is carried headlong.
Job 5:14 They meet with darkness in the day time, and grope in the noonday as in the night.
3. May the salvation of the righteous come to fulfillment Job 5:15.
But he saveth the poor from the sword, from their mouth, and from the hand of the mighty.

YOU CAN GIVE YOUR LIFE TO JESUS

By going through the following steps

- 1. Hear the Gospel**
- 2. Believe the Gospel**
- 3. Repent of your sins**
- 4. Confess your faith in Jesus**
- 5. Be baptized for the remission of your sins**
- 6. Continue steadfastly in worship and enjoy
the amazing grace in Christ**

*Rom. 10:10,17; Acts. 2:38-42;
Mark 16:15,16; II Cor. 5:17; Rom. 6:1-4; Rom. 8:1-3*

DECLARATION!

God thank you for always providing for my needs. Help me to trust you as I look at all of the demands that are pressing against me. Thank you for opening heaven's resources up for me and my family. I am blessed, I am favored, I am loved. I live in constant Supply. I shall not run out of supply in 2024 in Jesus name- Amen

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